AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

1. (Currently Amended) A pharmaceutical ~~Pharmaceutical~~ composition, containing a combination of active substances, comprising a selenium-containing active substance and the active substance corticoid, the active substances being present in aqueous solution.

2. (Currently Amended) The pharmaceutical ~~Pharmaceutical~~ composition according to claim 1, characterized in that the combination of active substances furthermore comprises insulin.

3. (Currently Amended) The pharmaceutical ~~Pharmaceutical~~ composition according to claim 1 ~~one of claims 1 or 2~~, characterized in that the active substances are each present separately in separate forms of administration.

4. (Currently Amended) ~~Method~~ The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 1 ~~one of claims 1 to 3~~, characterized in that each active substance is present in a form suited for i.v. application.

5. (Currently Amended) The pharmaceutical ~~Pharmaceutical~~ composition according to claim 1 ~~one of claims 1 to 4~~, characterized in that the concentration of selenium ranges from 5 - 500 µg/ml~~, preferably 50 µg/ml~~, and the concentration of corticoid ranges from 0.5-50 mg/ml~~, preferably 5 mg/ml~~.

6. (Currently Amended) The pharmaceutical ~~Pharmaceutical~~ composition according to claim 1 ~~one of claims 1 to 5~~, characterized in that the selenium is present in a form selected from pharmaceutically acceptable selenium salts.

7. (Currently Amended) The pharmaceutical ~~Pharmaceutical~~ composition according to claim 6, characterized in that the selenium-containing active substance is present as sodium selenite~~, preferably sodium selenite x $5H_2O$.~~

8. (Currently Amended) The pharmaceutical ~~Pharmaceutical~~ composition according to claim 1 ~~one of claims 1 to 7~~, characterized in that the corticoid is selected from glucocorticoids.

9. (Currently Amended) The pharmaceutical ~~Pharmaceutical~~ composition according to claim 8, characterized in that the corticoid is hydrocortisone.

10.-20. (Cancelled)

21. (New) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 5, wherein the concentration of selenium is 50 µg/ml.

22. (New) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 5, wherein the concentration of corticoid is 5 mg/ml.

23. (New) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 6, wherein the selenium-containing active substance is present as sodium selenite x $5H_2O$.

24. (New) A method of treatment of sepsis, SIRS and/or septic shock in a patient, comprising administering the pharmaceutical composition of claim 1 to the patient, whereby the patient is treated for sepsis, SIRS and/or septic shock.

25. (New) The method of claim 24, wherein at least 100 µg of selenium are administered per day.

26. (New) The method of claim 25, wherein at least 1000 µg of selenium are administered per day.

27. (New) The method of claim 26, wherein at least 3340 µg sodium selenite x 5 H_2O are administered per day.

28. (New) The method of claim 25, wherein the selenium-containing active substance is administered by means of a bolus once a day.

29. (New) The method of claim 25, wherein the selenium-containing active substance is administered over a period of at least 7 days.

30. (New) The method of claim 29, wherein the selenium-containing active substance is administered over a period of at least 14 days.

31. (New) The method of claim 24, wherein at least 20 µg sodium selenite x 5 H_2O is additionally administered as a basis application per day.

32. (New) The method of claim 31, wherein at least 35 µg sodium selenite x 5 H_2O is additionally administered as a basis application per day.

33. (New) The method of claim 24, wherein at least 50 mg hydrocortisone are administered per day.

34. (New) The method of claim 33, wherein at least 200 mg hydrocortisone are administered per day.

35. (New) The method of claim 24, wherein the hydrocortisone is continuously administered over 24 hours.

36. (New) The method of claim 33, wherein the hydrocortisone is administered for at least 2 days.

37. (New) The method of claim 36, wherein the hydrocortisone is administered for at least 5 days.

38. (New) The method of claim 24, wherein insulin is additionally administered, such that the blood sugar does not exceed 200 mg%.

39. (New) A method of treatment of sepsis, SIRS, and/or septic shock in a patient comprising administering to the patient a pharmaceutical composition comprising a selenium-containing active substance and hydrocortisone, whereby the patient is treated for sepsis, SIRS, and/or septic shock.